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## Impossible Lightness

Betsy Martin

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# Impossible Lightness

by Betsy Martin

Winter encrusts the world  
in pearl tones of silver and gray.  
My obscure thoughts well up  
like ashy tree trunks hollowed and useless  
since a beaver dam flooded these woods.  
They branch and dissipate in slate sky,  
multiply into a ghostly forest.  
I'm alone in here.

Snow dresses the branches  
like flattened tutus of dead ballerinas.

Perhaps a snowy owl,  
rare at this latitude,  
will swoop down,  
incandescent,  
with soft  
whoosh,  
whoosh  
of wide wings  
and glide  
with impossible lightness  
through the trees.

